

Church of St. Sebastian
March 4, 2012—Second Sunday of Lent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, March 3, Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Michael DiMaio, MD

Sunday, March 4, Second Sunday of Lent

9:00 am For the people

11:00 am Mary Allison and Colleen Mullaney
 -requested by their family

Monday, March 5, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Special Intention

-requested by Mary Horan

Tuesday, March 6, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mary Haddad, birthday remembrance

-requested by her daughter

Wednesday, March 7, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Edna J. McLaughlin

Thursday, March 8, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am John, Julia, and Mary McLaughlin

Friday, March 9, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, March 10, Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Anne M. Daniels, 6th anniversary
 -requested by her husband Ralph

Sunday, March 11, Third Sunday of Lent

9:00 am Anthony N. Patriarca, birthday remembrance
 -requested by his family

11:00 am M. Adelaide O'Neill, month's mind

THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

Sun.	3/4	Coffee Hour	10:00 am
		Religious Education	10:00 am
		Religious Education	6:30 pm
Mon.	3/5	Religious Education	3:30 pm
		Stations of the Cross	7:00 pm
Thur.	3/8	Choir Rehearsal	7:30 pm

*Let us pray for the repose of the souls of
 Edna McLaughlin and family
 whose love for our parish was shown in a
 bequest at the time of her death.
 We remember them in gratitude and offer
 Wednesday and Thursday's 7:00 am Mass
 for them this week.
 May they rest in the peace of the Lord.*

PASTOR'S CORNER

The attendance at the Parish Mission was quite astounding! I hope that all who attended received as many graces as I from Fr. Reilly's spiritual reflections. The parish will have a Lenten mission every year during my pastorate: it helps keep us focused, renewed, and challenged in our spiritual and parish life. Thank you, Fr. Reilly. You are our first Spiritual Father of the Lenten Season. Your diocesan ministry and priestly friendship is a genuine gift.

As Fr. Reilly mentioned during the Parish Mission, the Transfiguration gospel presents another affirming word today from the Father about Jesus: "*This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.*" MY BELOVED SON... words packed with meaning and emotion. We have only begun to fathom and to penetrate the depth of effects of our baptism as the children of God....*We, the beloved!*

One Christian writer commented that the transfiguration of Jesus was NOT a miracle, but the cessation of one! Namely, Peter, James, and John were given the privilege to see Jesus in glory, that is with the veil of his humanity fully lifted. What they saw, we hope to see; Jesus glorified! We do not yet live on that Mount Tabor, but we journey toward another one, Mount Calvary. There Jesus is seen in his full suffering humanity. St. John, calls it 'the hour of glory.'

A few have asked, "What was the Psalm that I mentioned on Ash Wednesday?" It's Psalm 139, nicknamed, '*The Hound of Heaven*' after the masterful poem by Francis Thompson (d. 1907). "Lord, you probe me and you know me..." I loved its cadence when, as a Benedictine novice, I chanted it in the monastery. It was on Wednesday at evening prayer. It has become part of my very consciousness as a man and a priest. I recommend it to you now as a Lenten meditation. Prayerfully read it everyday during Lent. You **will** be a different person on Easter Sunday, perhaps not transfigured, but surely transformed. Transformed? Transformed into what or, better yet, into whom? All I can say to you, my brothers and sisters is: "Come along; you'll see!"

Enjoy the Lenten journey walk from ashes to glory,
 ~Msgr. Darcy

Days of Fast and Abstinence

Weekdays of Lent:

There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

These are days of **FAST and ABSTINENCE from meat**. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18-59 inclusive.

Days of Abstinence (All Fridays in Lent) All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

Church of St. Sebastian

March 4, 2012— Second Sunday of Lent

LENTEN ALMSGIVING OPPORTUNITIES

2012 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

The Lenten season is an excellent time to put almsgiving into action. Our 2012 Charity Appeal goal has been lowered from \$98K to \$82K as a result of my request, our parish needs, and our past performance in a difficult economy. *The Bishop's Partners in Charity* (BPC) have received their Appeal card and are asked to return it to the rectory (in a separate envelope in the collection or mailed to the rectory). All parishioners will be receiving their Charity Appeal card in the mail within the next week or two in place of the in-pew solicitation. Please make this a truly parish effort for the need is greater than ever. The Catholic Charity Appeal theme this year is: *Give, And It Will Be Given To You.*

ANNUAL LENTEN SANDWICH DRIVE IN MARCH:

The Outreach Committee is seeking volunteers for our annual sandwich drive to benefit Crossroads RI. Each Sunday in March we ask parishioners to make 10 hearty sandwiches and bring them to church before the 11 am Mass. An Outreach member will deliver them to Crossroads in time for lunch. Because soup kitchens are not open on Sundays, this may be the only meal of the day for the homeless men, women and children at Crossroads. Feel free to add fruit, chips, cookies or other snacks to your donation. Sign up sheets are in the vestibule with additional details. This is an excellent Lenten family project.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

For those who wish to use the Rice Bowl as one component of Lenten almsgiving, they are available at all the door as you leave today. The proceeds will be collected on April 1st.



2ND PARISH WINE TASTING SAVE THE DATE: MAY 19TH

Plans are well underway for another wine tasting event on Saturday, May 19th from 6-8 PM in the Church Hall. More news soon...but **save the date!!**

LENTEN LITURGICAL SIGN UPS FOR HOLY WEEK

Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers can sign up for the liturgies of Holy Week on the bulletin board outside the sacristy side door. Thank you for your service to the parish. Please cover all the Masses.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Daily Mass Monday-Friday at 7:00 AM
Stations of the Cross –Mondays at 7:00 PM
Confessions –Saturdays at 4-4:45 PM

DIOCESAN NEWS

RHODE ISLAND STATE CIRCLE, DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA
Scholarships are being offered to memorialize Msgr. Thomas V. Cassidy, who served this organization as the RI State Chaplain and who was very dedicated to Catholic Education. A total of \$4,000 in “Msgr. Thomas. V. Cassidy Memorial Scholarships” will be awarded. Two eighth grade girls entering a Catholic High School of their choice will each be awarded a \$2,000 scholarship based on Scholastic Merit and Financial Need. Any girl interested in applying for a scholarship is asked to request an application in writing from Msgr. Thomas V. Cassidy Scholarship, Nancy Sohigan, 45 Kinfield Street, Providence 02909.

The applications is to be **completed and returned along with all requested documentation by March 31, 2012.**

THE WAY OF THE CROSS WITH MUSICAL MEDITATIONS
On Sunday, March 18th at 3:00 pm in the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, the Gregorian Concert Choir will present the “The Way of the Cross with Musical Meditations” to benefit the Haitian Project which assists in the education of poor Haitian children free of charge. Tickets are \$10 per person and may be purchased by calling the Cathedral office at 331-2434. Tickets will also be available at the door..

BISHOP HENDRICKEN HIGH SCHOOL
BHHS will hold an Open House on Sunday March 11th from Noon to 3:00 pm. The program will begin with a presentation by the President and Director of Admissions at 12:15 pm, followed by tours of the school. Information on the academics, college placement, athletic and extracurricular activities will be available. The entrance exam for prospective freshman and sophomore transfers will be held on Saturday, March 24th at 8:30 am. For more information or to pre-register, please call the Admissions Office at 739-3450..

The **PARISH BOOK CLUB** will meet on Wednesday, March 14th at 7:30 pm in the Fr. Randall Room to discuss Vladimir V. Nabokov’s Pnin. Everyone is welcome!

Please keep our fellow parishioners and friends in your thoughts and prayers:

Deborah Bessette, Peggy Corrigan, Rose Penney, Zola Ventre, and Vilma O’Connor.

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

February 25/26, 2012

# of Budget Envelopes Used This Week	77
Contributions-Budgets and Checks	\$3,680
Loose Contributions	\$ 579
Total Offertory	\$4,259
Ash Wednesday	\$ 931

Please consider enrolling in Parish Giving, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions.

You can register online at www.Parishgiving.org or on our parish website at www.stsebastianri.org.